

**CITY OF RACINE, WISCONSIN**

**REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY RESOLUTION 17-22**

WHEREAS, through Resolution 17-11, the Redevelopment Authority created a White Box Grant program to incentive property owners to bring buildings into compliance with current buildings codes and assist in the re-tenanting of vacant buildings.

WHEREAS, the Racine business community has embraced the White Box program and as of August 2017 there have been five White Box grants to five property owners for a total of \$91,000 in grant incentives.

WHEREAS, it has become apparent that the demand for a White Box program outstrips the current funding for 2017 of \$100,000;

WHEREAS, business owners of vacant downtown building has requested that the program be amended to allow a property owner of a building with more than one district, vacant retail spaces to obtain additional White Box Funding and not be limited to one White Box grant per building;

WHEREAS, we believe there is also a need to consider a “sunset” provision for the White Box program to incentivize vacant property owners to take more immediate action to rehabilitate and lease vacant spaces;

WHEREAS, the Common Council and its Finance and Personnel Committee voted to provide an additional \$150,000 in White Box funding for 2017 and combined White Box funding line items and Façade Grant line items into one large line item of \$400,000 to fund business incentives on a “first-come/first-served” basis.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Racine endorses and approves the following changes to the White Box program:

1. An increase of \$150,000 in White Box funding from the Intergovernmental Revenue Fund for the 2017 Fiscal Year for a total of \$250,000.
2. Combining the line item for Façade grants and White Box grants into one line item for either Facades grant or White Box grant applications.
3. Create a “sunset” on the White Box Program for the end of FY 2019 to incentivize vacant property-owners to take more immediate action to rehabilitate and lease vacant spaces.
4. Consider allowing a property owner of a building with more than one distinct, vacant retail spaces to obtain more than one White Box Grant.

*Fiscal Note: There is now \$400,000 budgeted for Fiscal Year 2017 in one line item for both White Box and Façade Improvement grants.*

Adopted on: August 3, 2017 Seal

By a Vote of  
For: 0  
Against: 0  
Abstain: 0

Attest:

Amy Connolly, AICP  
Executive Director